

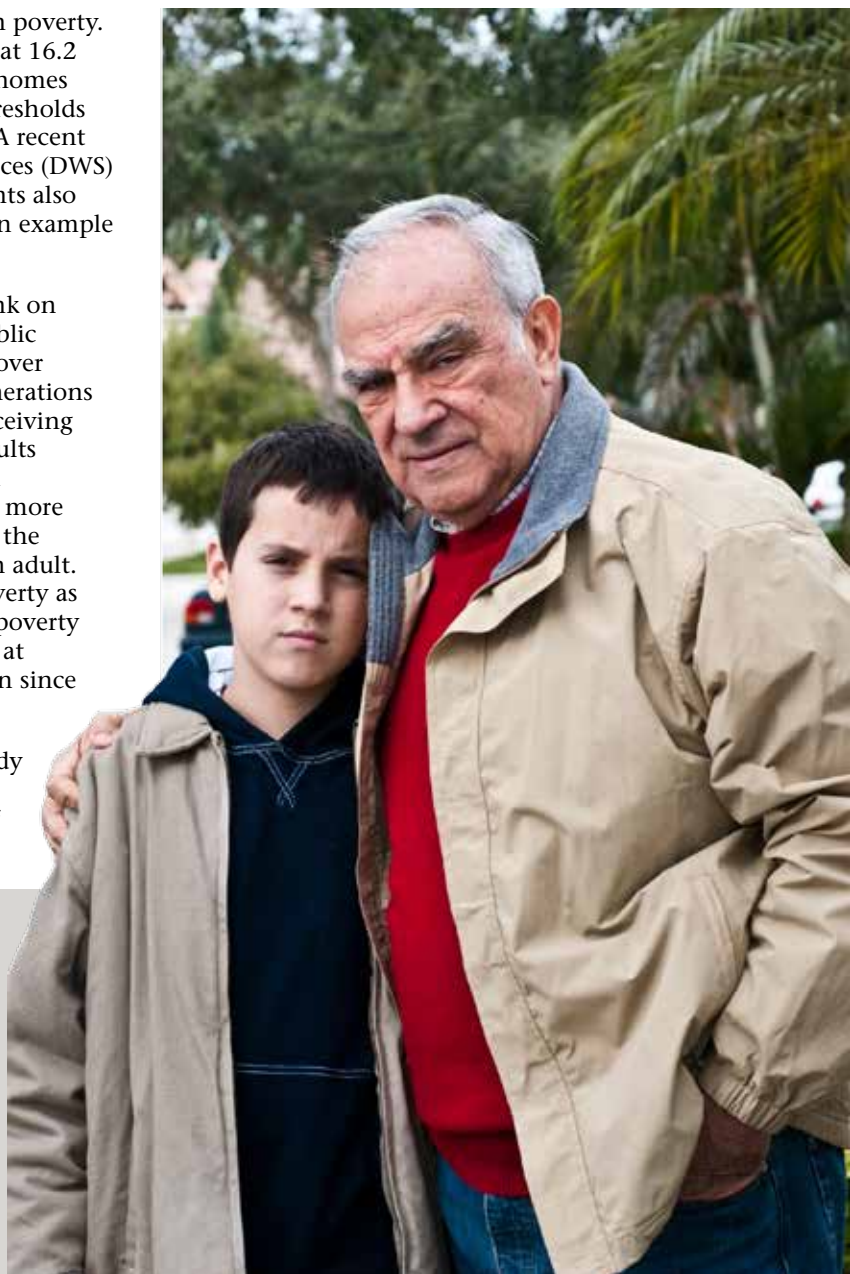
## Breaking the Cycle: Intergenerational Poverty in Utah

One in every six Utah children lives in poverty. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 16.2 percent of Utah's children reside in homes where parents earn less than the poverty thresholds defined for their respective household size. A recent study by the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) finds that one third of these children's parents also lived in poverty when they were children, an example of intergenerational poverty.

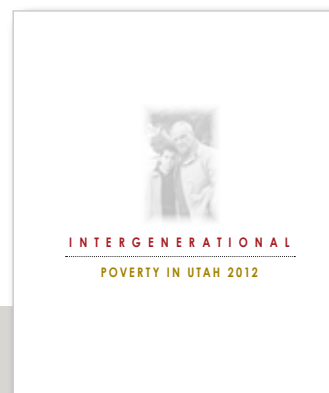
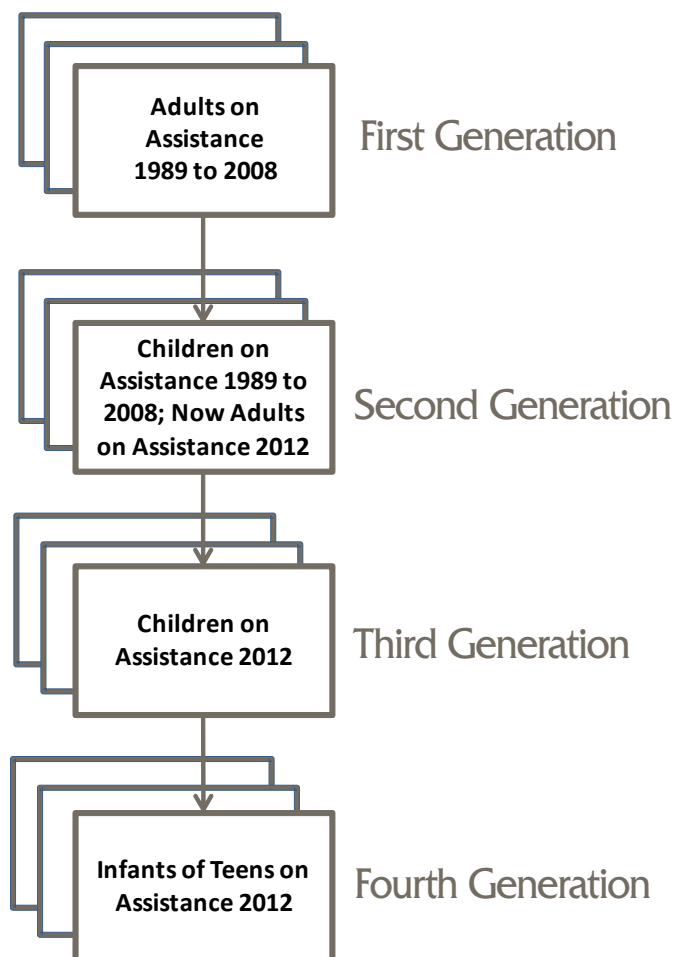
The Intergenerational Poverty Report (see link on the facing page) describes how historical public assistance (PA) records used to track people over more than 20 years identified up to four generations of recipients. There were 35,778 children receiving PA between 1989 and 2008 who are now adults ages 21 to 40 receiving PA, representing 1 in every 24 Utahns of the same age group. The more impoverished a person is during childhood, the more likely that person is to receive PA as an adult. Also, the longer individuals experienced poverty as children, the longer they are likely to be in poverty as adults. The report further provides a look at 51,079 children who are the third generation since 1989.

Though startling, information from this study will help administrators tailor services to intergenerational recipients with the goal of breaking the cycle of poverty. ⓘ

The more impoverished a person is during childhood, the more likely that person is to receive public assistance as an adult.



## Intergenerational Attachment to Public Assistance



The Intergenerational Poverty Report  
[https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/pubs/Poverty\\_Report\\_web.pdf](https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/pubs/Poverty_Report_web.pdf)



US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2011  
<http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/interactive/#>